

**REMARKS**

These amendments are intended to eliminate multiple dependencies, to better present the claims for examination, and to reduce the filing fee by reducing the number of dependent claims. The canceled claims are cancelled without prejudice to resubmit them at a later date.

Respectfully submitted,

LEYDIG VOIT & MAYER, LTD.



John M. Belz

Registration No. 30,359

Suite 300  
700 Thirteenth Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
Telephone: (202) 737-6770  
Facsimile: (202) 737-6776  
Dated: 15 Mar 2002